



“Invictus”

Ltd. CD+Bonus DVD, Ltd. LP+CD, CD, Digital Download

EU street date: May 24, 2010

HEAVEN SHALL BURN are a phenomenon. Instead of roaming distant shores in order to seek for innovations the five-piece from Saalfeld/Weimar, Germany is rather heading for well known territories in order to shed their collective skin. For years they have been drawing creative impulses from the long-term friendship between the individual members. Despite releasing new studio albums regularly they are hardly ever in a real hurry. *“We take our time to finalize our songs and don’t record them before we feel that they are ready”*, explains Alexander Dietz.

For “Invictus” [the full title of which is “Invictus” (Iconoclast III)] HEAVEN SHALL BURN returned to Tue Madsen’s Antfarm Studio in Aarhus, Denmark. Again, the album was produced by the two guitarists Maik Weichert and Alexander Dietz. “Never change a winning team” turned out to be the best and most effective option to record their albums instead of burning budgets by trying out different people every time. Maik explains: *“Tue Maden knows and understands our sound. For us it is easier to improve and develop our sound further when we are working with someone we know. Otherwise it would mean getting adjusted to someone new every time we record an album which doesn’t feel right to us.”* By using Ólafur Arnalds for the atmospheric intro and outro they held on to another trademark of their sound. *“To work new elements into our typical sound was definitely a challenge for us”*, says Alexander. “The Lie You Bleed For” and especially “Combat” show them heavily flirting with electronica. Still, those shouldn’t come as a surprise to anybody once recalling “Against All Lies” and “Muderer Of All Murderers”. However, “Given In Death” proves that their heavy sound leaves room for changes and innovations, as a highly emotional duet of Marcus Bischoff and Sabine Weniger from Deadlock is not exactly what you would have expected from HEAVEN SHALL BURN. Still, no fan who is into their heavy and majestic riffs that are influenced by Scandinavian metal will be disappointed and can indulge themselves in songs such as “Buried In Forgotten Grounds” or “Return To Sanity”. “Combat” even shows some frosty black metal references. *“In Aarhus we were snowed in twice - that might explain the black metal influences”*, smiles Maik.

“Invictus” is the 3rd part of the “Iconoclast”-story after “Iconoclast” (#21 in the German Media Control Charts) and their DVD “Bildersturm” (German DVD Charts #3, album charts #54, Austrian DVD Charts #9). Again stories about unconventional heroes are being told, a different light is cast upon well known idols and legends. Maik explains via a song-by-song:

THE OMEN

We got the idea for the song after people were asking us in interviews several times if we really think that you can still save the world. This kind of ignorance is upsetting us every time. There are many, many people whose world has long ended. They live in a world of war, hunger, misery and exploitation – and someone sitting in our backstage in our nice and cosy First World has the guts to ask a question like this. This drastically shows how people ignore that other people are suffering and dying.

COMBAT

is about child soldiers

I WAS, I AM, I SHALL BE

deals with the murders of Liebknecht and Luxemburg

BURIED IN FORGOTTEN GROUNDS

The title relates to “The Weapon They Fear”. It is about how Augusto Pinochet was protected by old networks and that the role of the CIA during the putsch in Chile and other countries in South and Middle America is still unclear. To this day ten thousands of families have no idea where their relatives were deported to.

SEVASTOPOL

The WW2 battle of Sevastopol by the Black Sea is a symbol for the atrocities of war, of how people were willing to sacrifice themselves and of the horrific megalomania of the National Socialists.



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THE LIE YOU BLEED FOR

The lyrics are our statement against the daily robot-ism, against being exploited at your job. We have several friends who suffered from their first burn out in their mid-twenties or early thirties. It is fair to strive for something bigger and better.

However, it should not be in the name of the DAX, but only for your own self. It has to be okay to keep a minimum of freedom – even if it is in certain limits – otherwise your working clothes turn into prison clothing. Hence, the song exhibits a tiny bit of Spartakus' spirit.

RETURN TO SANITY

The song is about one of the most violent battles of WW2 that is also known as "the Battle of All Souls' Day". Ernest Hemingway was war correspondent and this battle completely changed his viewpoint on war. During the battle a German lieutenant tried to rescue a wounded American soldier who was screaming for his life, but he got killed himself. The Americans set up a memorial stone on the battlegrounds in remembrance of Lieutenant Lengfeld.

AGAINST BRIDGE BURNERS

the life and works of Lev Kopelevs

OF FORSAKEN POETS

The song is dedicated to the German writer Max Hermann-Neiße who died in the British exile 1941. It was influenced by the poem "Ein deutscher Dichter bin ich einst gewesen".

GIVEN IN DEATH

mercy killing and what the church thinks about it

The limited edition of "Invictus" will be available as luxurious box-set incl. a Digipak that comes with a bonus-track (a coverversion of Therapy?'s "Nowhere") in an alternative artwork together with a bonus-DVD. This DVD holds a special "300"-show recorded by film-m, who also did the "Leitmotiv" documentary on "Bildersturm" as well as their last video-clips. "After the big, kick-ass show in a huge venue we felt it was time to go back to what HSB came from and what we are really about – the energy that you can feel a lot better in an intimate environment." The vinyl edition will also be available with the alternative artwork, so every fan should be able to find the right format that caters his/her taste.

After the release of "Iconoclast" in 2008 HEAVEN SHALL BURN did not only release their first ever DVD "Bildersturm", but also played a headlining tour, toured the US for the first time, supported Trivium in Australia, played numerous festivals (Groezrock, Greenfield, Summerblast, With Full Force, Illosaarirock, Dour, Summerbreeze, Wacken, Hellfest, Vainstream) as well as the Persistence tour in 2008. In 2009 they were part of shows on the Taste Of Chaos tour with In Flames and Killswitch Engage and last but not least wrapped up the year under the banner of the Darkness Over X-Mas tour with Caliban, Dark Tranquillity, Swashbuckle and Deadlock. Their live-cycle for "Invictus" will kick off on several high profile festivals in the summer of 2010 while the fall will see them headlining European venues again.

HEAVEN SHALL BURN live:

04.-06.06.2010 (D) Rock Am Ring / Rock Im Park
12.06.2010 (A) Nickelsdorf - Nova Rock Festival
13.06.2010 (CH) Interlaken - Greenfield Festival
01.07.2010 (N) Arendal - Hove Festival
03.07.2010 (D) Roitschjora - With Full Force
04.07.2010 (TR) Istanbul - Unirock Festival
31.07.2010 (E) Viveiro - Resurrection Festival
20.08.2010 (D) Dinkelsbühl - Summer Breeze

HEAVEN SHALL BURN – Invictus (45:09)

1. Intro (01:09)
2. The Omen (03:37)
3. Combat (03:48)
4. I Was I Am I Shall Be (03:56)
5. Buried In Forgotten Grounds (05:33)
6. Sevastopol (04:03)
7. The Lie You Bleed For (04:41)
8. Return To Sanity (03:20)
9. Against Bridge Burners (03:29)
10. Of Forsaken Poets (04:32)
11. Given In Death (05:11)
12. Outro (01:46)!

selected discography:

In Battle... - MCD 1998
Split-LP with Fall Of Serenity - 1999
Asunder - 2000
Caliban vs. Heaven Shall Burn, The Split Program - 2000
Whatever It May Take - 2002
Antigone - 2004
Caliban vs. Heaven Shall Burn, The Split Program II - 2005
Deaf To Our Prayers - 2006
Iconoclast (Part One: The Final Resistance) - 2008
Bildersturm - Iconoclast II (The Visual Resistance) - 2009
Invictus (Iconoclast III) - 2010

Line-Up:

Marcus Bischoff - Vocals
Maik Weichert - Lead Guitars
Alexander Dietz - Lead Guitars
Eric Bischoff - Bass
Matthias Voigt - Drums

HEAVEN SHALL BURN online:

www.myspace.com/officialheavenshallburn



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